

*RE K*  
*McGill*

23 March 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT : Some Points Brought up at MC&G  
Working Group Meeting of 16 March 1972

REFERENCE : Agenda-MCGWG-69

1. I shall not try to develop a complete set of notes on all items of the agenda but merely stress a few of the major points made.

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2. [REDACTED] discussed agenda item 2.e. on the status of COMIREX-USIB action on the MC&G requirements paper. I had briefed [REDACTED] rather thoroughly regarding your views as stated in your discussion with me on the previous day emphasizing to him that you were not challenging the MC&G requirements as such but that you were concerned regarding the change in signals which took place at the EXCOM meeting in early January where it was definitely decided that there would be only [REDACTED] per year and that you felt the entire community was at a pressure point with regard to evaluating the [REDACTED] for meeting requirements under these circumstances. I also expressed to him your feeling that there was nothing more that the MC&G Working Group needed to do at this point in time. He rearranged my words somewhat saying that he had been in close contact with you and emphasized that you were not in any way trying to unnecessarily hold up the paper but that you did feel you could not send the paper forward to USIB without having some of the implications clarified in your own mind. He then called upon me for any additional information. I merely mentioned that you were having some studies (analyses)

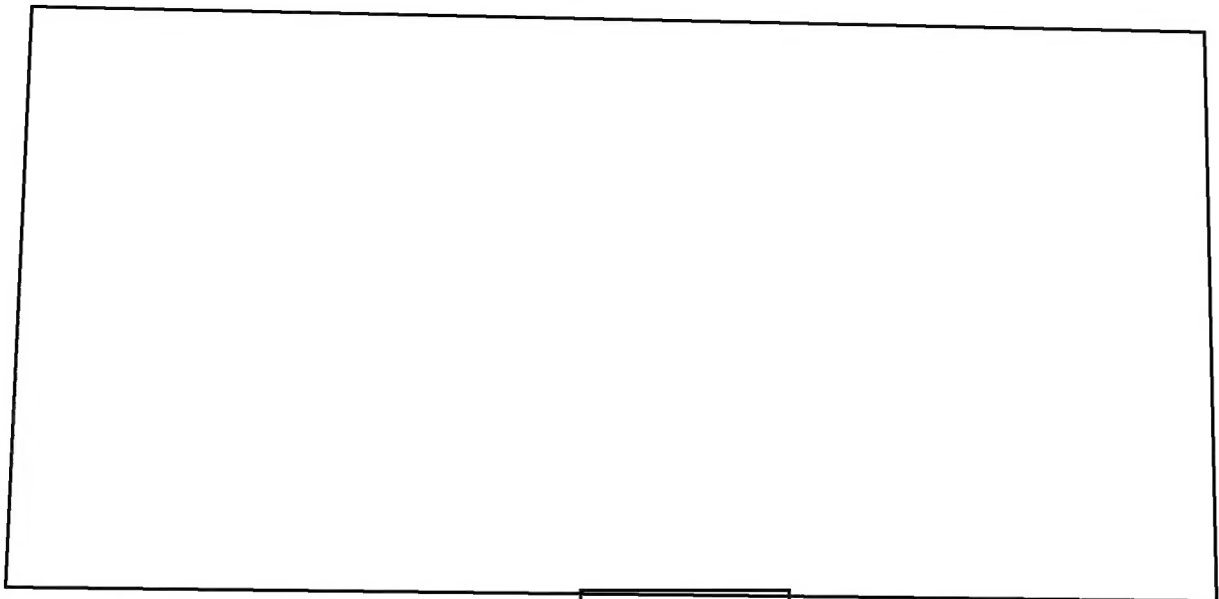
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NRO review(s) completed.

made in an attempt to get a better handle on implications. I was asked by [redacted] what these studies were and stated that I knew nothing about them other than that they probably were oriented primarily toward the intelligence requirements problem.

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6. At the request of [redacted] I briefed the Working Group members on the content of the memorandum to the D/NRO Staff from you, dated 13 March 1972, in which you stated that the COMIREX in general agreed that, at the present time, no critical requirement for KH-4 search coverage in June had been identified and that the launching of Mission 1117 on or about 12 May seemed probable, and that it was planned to employ this mission against unsatisfied MC&G requirements with a portion dedicated to priority intelligence requirements. I mentioned the discussion at COMIREX regarding both Missions 1116 and 1117 and explained why you did not discuss Mission 1116 in the memorandum because you were being responsive specifically to a request from the NRO. I emphasized that there was no telling what priority requirements might develop, particularly against Mission 1116, and that any SALT agreement would of course take priority over anything else on one or both of the missions.

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7. [ ] was called upon to discuss the Skylab Program (agenda item 2.f.) and gave a rather complete rundown not only on the Skylab equipment but also on the ERTS A and cameras carried on the Apollo flights. Experiment S190A, the multispectral camera package of the EREP of the Skylab, has six cameras which take pictures simultaneously on 70 mm film. They will operate during the 65 passes during which the Skylab is oriented toward the earth. The forward motion compensation will be obtained by rocking the whole package. Resolution will be from 176 to 250 feet. The IR color camera will have a resolution of about 300 feet and the high resolution color camera a resolution of 180 feet. They are using four different types of film. The area to be covered on the ground will be 88 x 88 sq. nm. [ ] did not stress the other elements within the EREP such as the multispectral scanner, etc. He pointed out that S190B is the 18" Hycon (now Actron) camera. The format is 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" and the amount of film per roll is 200 feet of 5" thin base. They can run the frames at as high a rate as 25 per minute. The forward motion compensation is also accomplished by rocking the camera. There is a 14° field of view from side to side and a color corrected lens is used. There will be four rolls of film on the first occupancy of the Skylab and six rolls on the second and on the third occupancies. There was some rather hazy talk regarding the use of one or more of the Apollo command modules in the future. The first would be related to a hoped-for docking with a Soyuz. There was speculation on the possibility of having the 24" optical bar camera as well as the 12" frame camera on board. [ ] thought that, if this experiment ever took place, the orbit would be about 150 nm.

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[ ] has previously explained to me that this type of experiment has not been fully examined and that there is at present no expectation of any money for such work in the immediate future. Using command modules just for earth resource surveys would be prohibitive in cost.

8. The last item regarding NRO development activities of interest to the MC&G community and MC&G guidance for NRO fiscal planning was, I am told, extremely interesting but unfortunately I had to leave before the discussion took place. At an earlier meeting it was concluded that a letter giving guidance to the NRO should be prepared to the Chairman, COMIREX, including recommendations proposed by the Technical Working Group. I am sure they are intending to do this.



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